

@ The Cedars



THE CEDARS
SCHOOL



MONDAY 6TH APRIL 2020

DEAR PARENTS

I hope you and your families are all well. It has been a rather strange term here at The Cedars as I am sure it has been for your sons at their current schools. No one could have foreseen, when we started the term back in January that it would end like this. Despite all our present difficulties, however, I would like to extend a warm welcome to you all and I hope that through occasional newsletters like this one we can make you and your sons feel more a part of the Cedars community before your sons join us in September.

I expect your sons are engaged in remote learning and we have had to make that switch here as well. It has been easier for some of us than others to get used to the delights of Google Classroom, OneNote, Zoom and the various other apps that are becoming a normal part of school life.

I am pleased to say that our building projects are still going ahead, even though they have been delayed slightly. That means that we will have new Sixth Form facilities, an extended library, a small multi-gym, additional changing rooms and extra classrooms available for the new academic year. We also have planning permission for a completely new building which we hope to start within the next 12 to 18 months. All very exciting!

We usually host a number of induction events during the summer term but it is looking increasingly unlikely that we will be able to do so this year. None of us knows when the current social distancing measures will be relaxed but I would be surprised if we were able to meet together before the summer holiday. We will endeavour to keep in touch through newsletters for the time being while we give thought to how we can create

an online induction experience for you and your sons. Any feedback on what you would find helpful will be gratefully received.

I recorded a message for boys on Friday in which I spoke about Easter among other things. The events that we call to mind next week – Christ's passion, death and resurrection – remind us that God can bring good out of even the most terrible events. "We can rejoice, not because we are free from trouble, nor in spite of trouble, but because there is something that surpasses whatever this world can throw at us." One of my favourite quotes from Fr George's noticeboard outside the school chapel is this one from St Josemaria: "To be happy, what you need is not an easy life but a heart which is in love." God may not be giving us an easy life at the moment but he wants us to be happy and perhaps he wants us to learn that that happiness doesn't come from an absence of problems but from trust in Him as our loving father.

We will be back in touch after Easter so let me take this opportunity to wish you and your families a peaceful and happy Easter holiday. Let's do all we can to support each other through these challenging times!

Robert Teague,
Headmaster

COMPETITION FOYLE YOUNG POETS

[Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award](#) is OPEN and will continue to be open until 31 July 2020. **Enter now!**

The competition is open to anyone aged 11-17. The deadline to enter your poem/s is midnight 31 July 2020. It is completely FREE to enter and you can enter as many poems as you wish.

